

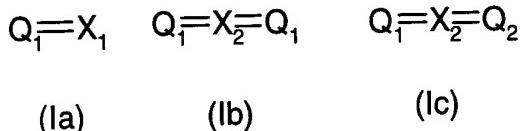


Please amend the above-identified patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 1, 3, 12 and 13 by replacement as follows:

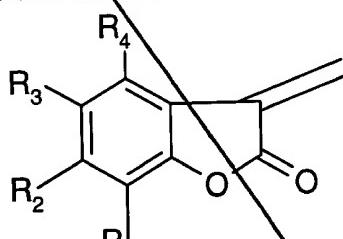
1. (amended) A compound of the formula (Ia), (Ib) or (Ic)



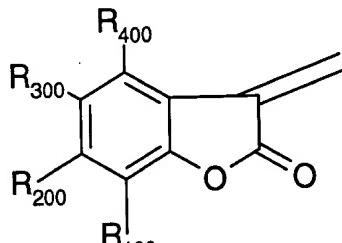
in which

$Q_1$  is a benzofuran-2-one of the formula (IIa), and

$Q_2$  is a benzofuran-2-one of the formula (IIb)



(IIa)



(IIb)

in which

$R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_{100}$ ,  $R_{200}$ ,  $R_{300}$  or  $R_{400}$  independently of one another are hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, ether, nitro, an amine, amide, imine, urethane, sulfonamide, ester, carboxylic acid or sulfonic acid radical or carboxylic salt, sulfonic salt or substituted or unsubstituted  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,

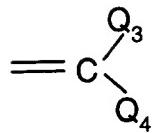
$C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkylthio,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkylthio,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkenyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryloxy,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ arylthio,  $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ heteroaryl,

$A_5$ - $A_{18}$ heteroaryloxy or  $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ heteroarylthio, or

$R_1$  and  $R_2$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  or  $R_{100}$  and  $R_{200}$  or  $R_{200}$  and  $R_{300}$  and  $R_{400}$ , independently of one another in each case together are divalent, substituted or unsubstituted radicals, such as polycyclic radicals or 1,3-butadien-1,4-ylene or  $-CH=CH-NH-$ , the two last radicals forming an additional fused-on 5- or 6-membered ring, and

$X_1$  is a hydrazone or imine radical, with the proviso that, if  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  are hydrogen, or at least one  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  or  $R_4$  is methyl, the hydrazone radical is excluded, or, if  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  or  $R_4$  is hydrogen,  $X_1$  is not phenylimine- or 4-dimethylamine-phenylimine, or  $X_1$  is a methylene radical,

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in which

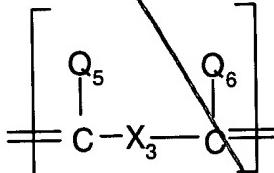
$Q_3$  is a substituted or unsubstituted primary or secondary amine radical and  $Q_4$  is hydrogen or substituted or unsubstituted  $C_1-C_{24}$ alkyl,  $-CO-(C_1-C_{24}$ alkyl),  $-CO-O-(C_1-C_{24}$ alkyl),  $C_1-C_{24}$ alkoxy,  $C_1-C_{24}$ alkylthio,

$C_5-C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5-C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy,  $C_5-C_{12}$ cycloalkylthio,  $C_2-C_{24}$ alkenyl,  $C_6-C_{24}$ aryl,  $-CO-O-(C_6-C_{24}$ aryl),  $-CO-(C_6-C_{24}$ aryl),  $C_6-C_{24}$ aryloxy, a primary or secondary amine radical,  $C_6-C_{24}$ arylthio,  $C_7-C_{25}$ aralkyl,  $A_5-A_{18}$ heteroaryl,  $A_5-A_{18}$ heteroaryloxy or  $A_5-A_{18}$ heteroarylthio, or

$Q_3$  and  $Q_4$  together are a lactam, quinomethylene, hydantoin, acenaphthenequinone, azlactone, pyrazolonyl, barbituric acid, isoindolinone or isoindoline radical, with the proviso that

$Q_4$  is not hydrogen and if  $R_3$  is hydrogen, methoxy or hydroxyl and  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_4$  are hydrogen, or  $Q_4$  is not hydrogen and  $Q_3$  is not a secondary amine radical if  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  are hydrogen, and

$X_3$  is a tetravalent 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring, or is



in which

$X_3$  is a single bond, unsubstituted or substituted  $C_1-C_{24}$ arylene,  $A_5-A_{18}$ heteroarylene, 1,2-phenylene, 1,3-phenylene, 1,4-phenylene or naphthylene, or a tetravalent polyether, polyimine, polyamine radical, or bi( $C_6-C_{24}$ )arylene, bi( $A_5-A_{18}$ )heteroarylene,  $C_2-C_{24}$ alkenylene, in which bi( $C_6-C_{24}$ )arylene, bi( $A_5-A_{18}$ )heteroarylene or  $C_2-C_{24}$ alkenylene can be interrupted by one or more intermediate units such as  $-CH=CH-$ ,  $-CH=N-$ ,  $-N=N-$ ,  $-CR_{44}R_{42}-$ ,  $-CO-$ ,  $-COO-$ ,  $-OCO-$ ,  $-NR_{42}CO-$ ,  $-CONR_{42}-$ ,  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-SO-$ ,  $-SO_2-$  or  $-NR_{42}^+$ ,

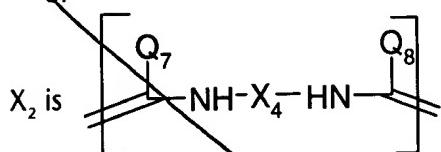
in which

$R_{42}$  and  $R_{44}$  independently of one another are hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted  $C_1-C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_5-C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_2-C_{24}$ alkenyl,  $C_6-C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_7-C_{25}$ aralkyl or  $A_5-A_{18}$ heteroaryl with the proviso that if  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_{100}$ ,  $R_{200}$ ,  $R_{300}$ ,  $R_{400}$  are all tert-butyl or hydrogen and  $Q_5$  and  $Q_6$  are hydrogen,  $X_3$  is not 1,4-phenylene, and

$Q_5$  and  $Q_6$  independently of one another are hydrogen,  $C_6-C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_6-C_{24}$ aryloxy,  $C_1-C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_1-C_{24}$ alkoxy,  $C_1-C_{24}$ alkylthio,  $C_5-C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5-C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy,  $C_5-C_{12}$ cycloalkylthio,  $C_2-C_{24}$ alkenyl,  $C_6-C_{24}$

*Sub P1* C<sub>24</sub>aryl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryloxy, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>arylthio or A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>18</sub>heteroaryl, A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>18</sub>heteroaryloxy, A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>18</sub>heteroarylthio,

or

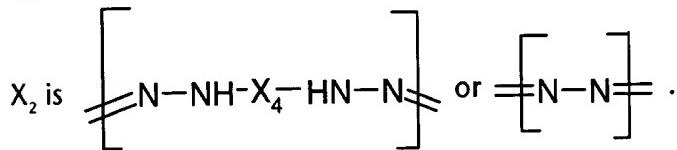


in which

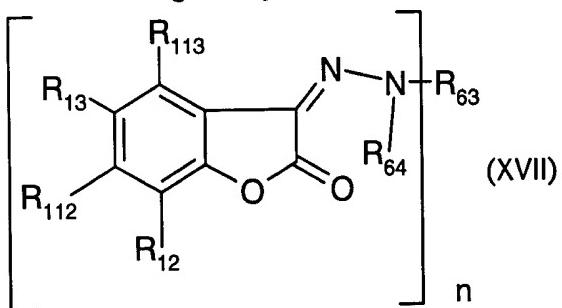
Q<sub>7</sub> and Q<sub>8</sub> independently of one another are Q<sub>5</sub> or Q<sub>6</sub>, and

X<sub>4</sub> is C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>arylene, A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>18</sub>heteroarylene, a polymethylidene or divalent polyether, polyimine, polyamine radical, or bi(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>)arylene, bi(A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>18</sub>)heteroarylene, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkenylene, in which bi(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>)arylene, bi(A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>18</sub>)heteroarylene or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkenylene can be interrupted by one or more intermediate units such as -CH=CH-, -CH=N-, -N=N-, -CR<sub>44</sub>R<sub>42</sub>-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NR<sub>42</sub>CO-, -CONR<sub>42</sub>-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>- or NR<sub>42</sub>-,

or



3. (amended) A compound according to any one of claims 1 and 2, of the formula (XVII)



*U2* in which,

if n is 1

R<sub>64</sub> independently of R<sub>63</sub> is a radical as defined under R<sub>63</sub> or is hydrogen, and  
R<sub>63</sub> is substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkenyl,  
C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>aryl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>13</sub>aralkyl, or A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>12</sub>heteroaryl, and

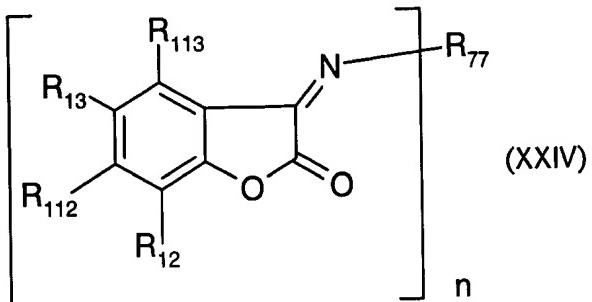
if n is 2

R<sub>63</sub> is unsubstituted or substituted C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>arylene, A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>18</sub>heteroarylene, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkyl or a divalent polymethylidene, polyether, polyimine, polyamine radical, or bi(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>)arylene,  
bi(A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>18</sub>)heteroarylene, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkenylene, in which  
bi(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>)arylene, bi(A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>18</sub>)heteroarylene or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkenylene can be interrupted and/or connected

to one another by a direct bond or by one or more intermediate units such as -CH=CH-, -CH=N-, -N=N-, -CR<sub>44</sub>R<sub>42</sub>-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NR<sub>42</sub>CO-, -CONR<sub>42</sub>-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>- or -NR<sub>42</sub>-, with the proviso that if R<sub>12</sub>, R<sub>13</sub>, R<sub>112</sub> and R<sub>113</sub> are hydrogen or at least one R<sub>12</sub>, R<sub>13</sub>, R<sub>112</sub> and R<sub>113</sub> is methyl, the hydrazone radical is excluded,

or

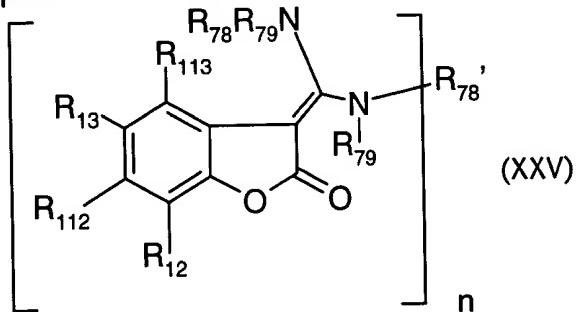
a compound of the formula (XXIV)



in which, if n is 1,

*H 2*  
R<sub>77</sub> is substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>aryl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>13</sub>aralkyl or A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>12</sub>heteroaryl, with the proviso that in formula (XXIV), if R<sub>12</sub>, R<sub>112</sub>, R<sub>13</sub> or R<sub>113</sub> are hydrogen, R<sub>77</sub> is not unsubstituted phenylimine or 4-dimethylaminophenylimine, or

a compound of the formula (XXV)



in which

if n is 1

R<sub>78</sub>, R<sub>78</sub>' and R<sub>79</sub> independently of one another are hydrogen or substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkylthio, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkoxy, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkylthio, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryloxy, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>arylthio or A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>12</sub>heteroaryloxy, A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>12</sub>heteroarylthio, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>aryl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>13</sub>aralkyl, or A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>12</sub>heteroaryl, or independently of one another are hydrogen, and

if n is 2

R<sub>78</sub> and R<sub>79</sub> are as defined above when n is 1, and

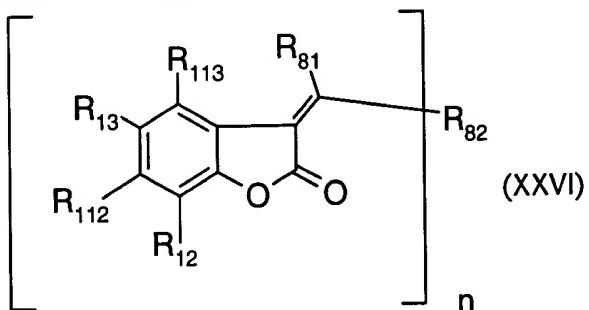
R<sub>78</sub>' is a direct bond or substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>arylene, A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>18</sub>heteroarylene, C<sub>5</sub>-

$C_{12}$ cycloalkyl or bi( $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ )arylene, bi( $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ )heteroarylene,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkenylene, in which bi( $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ )arylene, bi( $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ )heteroarylene,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkenylene can be interrupted by a direct bond or by one or more intermediate units such as -CH=CH-, -CH=N-, -N=N-, -CR<sub>44</sub>R<sub>42</sub>-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NR<sub>42</sub>CO-, -CONR<sub>42</sub>-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>- or -NR<sub>42</sub>-,

in which

R<sub>42</sub> and R<sub>44</sub> independently of one another are hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkenyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl, or  $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ heteroaryl, or

a compound of the formula (XXVI)



in which

if n is 1

R<sub>81</sub> is a substituted or unsubstituted primary or secondary amine radical and R<sub>82</sub> is hydrogen or unsubstituted or substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ alkyl, -CO-( $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl), -CO-O-( $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl),  $C_6$ - $C_{12}$ aryloxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ alkylthio,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy,  $C_2$ - $C_{12}$ alkenyl, a primary or secondary amine radical,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl, -CO-O-( $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl), -CO-( $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl),  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryloxy,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ arylthio or  $A_5$ - $A_{12}$ heteroaryl,  $A_5$ - $A_{12}$ heteroaryloxy,  $A_5$ - $A_{12}$ heteroarylthio, or R<sub>81</sub> and R<sub>82</sub> together are a lactam, quinomethylene, hydantoin, acenaphthenequinone, azlactone, pyrazolonyl, barbituric acid, isoindolinone or isoindoline radical,

with the proviso that R<sub>82</sub> is not hydrogen and R<sub>81</sub> is not a primary or secondary amine radical if R<sub>13</sub> is hydrogen, methoxy or hydroxyl and R<sub>12</sub>, R<sub>112</sub> and R<sub>113</sub> are hydrogen, or R<sub>82</sub> is not hydrogen and R<sub>81</sub> is not a secondary amine radical if R<sub>12</sub>, R<sub>112</sub>, R<sub>13</sub> and R<sub>113</sub> are hydrogen, and

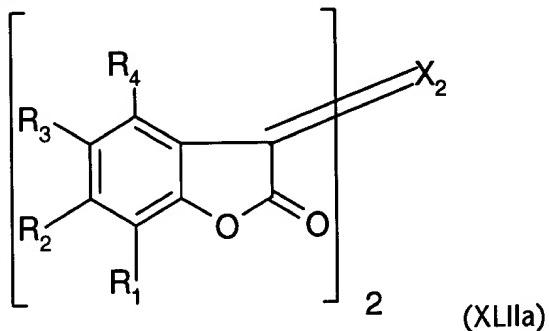
if n is 2

R<sub>82</sub> is a single bond, an unsubstituted or substituted  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ arylene, especially 1,2-phenylene, 1,3-phenylene, 1,4-phenylene or naphthylene or ( $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ )heteroarylene or bi( $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ )arylene, especially biphenylene, bi( $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ )heteroarylene,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkenylene, in which bi( $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ )arylene, bi( $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ )heteroarylene or  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkenylene, can be interrupted by one or more intermediate units such as -CH=CH-, -CH=N-, -N=N-, -CR<sub>44</sub>R<sub>42</sub>-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NR<sub>42</sub>CO-, -CONR<sub>42</sub>-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>- or -NR<sub>42</sub>-,

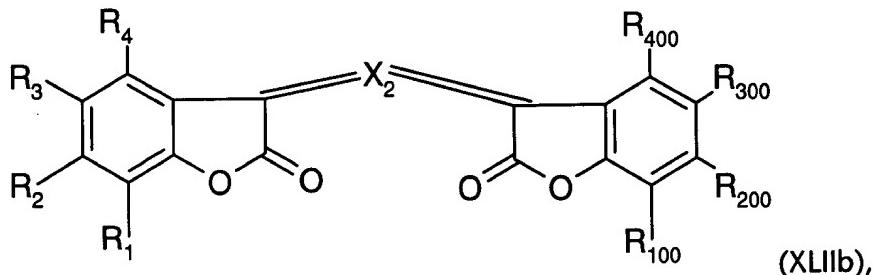
in which

*A<sup>2</sup>*  
 $R_{42}$  and  $R_{44}$  independently of one another are hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$  alkenyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl, or  $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ heteroaryl with the proviso that if  $R_{12}$ ,  $R_{112}$ ,  $R_{13}$ ,  $R_{113}$  and  $R_{81}$  are hydrogen,  $R_{82}$  is not 1,4-phenylene.

12. (amended) A composition consisting of from 2 to 10, preferably 2 or 3, compounds of the formulae (Ia), (Ib) and/or (Ic) according to claim 1, and/or (XLIIa) and/or (XLIIb) according to claim 9, and/or dimeric benzofuran-2-ones of the formulae (XLIIa) and/or (XLIIb)



*A<sup>3</sup>*  
or



in which

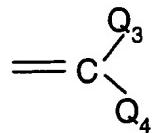
$X_2$  is ( $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ )arylene, ( $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ )heteroarylene or a divalent polymethylidene, polyether, polyimine, polyamine radical, or bi( $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ )arylene or bi( $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ )heteroarylene, the bi( $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ )arylene or bi( $A_5$ - $A_{18}$ )heteroarylene radical being attached directly or via a substituted or unsubstituted carbon, nitrogen, oxygen or (-N=N-) diradical, with the proviso that if  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_{100}$ ,  $R_{200}$ ,  $R_{300}$  and  $R_{400}$  are hydrogen,  $X_2$  is not  $CH-(C_6H_4)-CH$ .

13. (amended) A composition of matter comprising a high molecular weight organic material and a compound of the formula (Ia) according to claim 1

in which

$X_1$  is  $X_{10}$ , where  $X_{10}$  is a substituted or unsubstituted hydrazone or imine radical, or

is a methylene radical



in which

Q<sub>3</sub> and Q<sub>4</sub> are Q<sub>6</sub> and Q<sub>7</sub>, and independently of one another are hydrogen or substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, -CO-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl), -CO-O-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl), C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkylthio, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkoxy, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkylthio, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkenyl, a primary or secondary amine radical, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl, -CO-O-(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl), -CO-(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl), C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryloxy, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>arylthio, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl or A<sub>5</sub>-A<sub>18</sub>heteroaryl, or

Q<sub>3</sub> and Q<sub>4</sub> together are a lactam, quinomethylene, hydantoin, acenaphthenequinone, azlactone, pyrazolonyl, barbituric acid, isoindolinone or isoindoline radical,

or

a composition according to claim 12, (XIIa) or (XIIb) according to claim 9, in a colouringly effective amount.